MAR 1 1 2004 GT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 13172.0014U2 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Ward et al.) Art Unit: 1634
Application No. 10/037,469) Examiner: Jeffrey Norman Fredman
Filing Date: November 9, 2001) Confirmation No. 5187
For: NUCLEIC ACID DETECTION USING STRUCTURED PROBES)))

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C. Customer Number 23859

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on September 11, 2003, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this Amendment.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this Amendment.